AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

Page 1, after the first paragraph (after line 4) insert the following:

2. Discussion of Prior Art

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning at line 5 as follows:

The device which is particularly described in this specification in connection with a preferred embodiment is a spatial light modulator in the form of a smectic liquid crystal layer disposed between an active semiconductor backplane and a common front electrode. It was developed in response to a requirement for a fast and, if possible, inexpensive, spatial light modulator comprising a relatively large number of pixels with potential application not only as a display device, but also for other forms of optical processing such as correlation and holographic switching. Our copending International Patent Applications ~~(ref: P20957WO;~~ PCT/GB99/04285, U.S. Serial No. 09/868,219, priority GB9827952.4; ~~P20958WO~~ PCT/GB99/04276 ~~and P20958WO1~~, U.S. Serial Nos. 09/868,239 and 09/868,220, ~~both~~ priority GB9827965.6; PCT/GB99/04279, U.S. Serial No. 10/085,140, ~~P20960WO,~~ priority GB9827901.1; ~~P20961WO~~ PCT/GB 99/04274, U.S. Serial No. 09/868,218, priority GB9827964.9; ~~P20962WO,~~ PCT/GB99.04275, U.S. Serial No. 09/868,217, priority GB9827945.8; and ~~P20963WO~~ PCT/GB99/04760 and

~~P20963WO~~ PCT/GB99/04277, U.S. Serial Nos. 09/868,241 and 09/868,242, both priority GB9827944.1) relate to other inventive aspects associated with the spatial light modulator.

Page 6, after line 15, insert the following:

Summary of the Invention.

Page 9, before the first line add the following:

Brief Description of the Drawings.

Page 9, after line 17 insert the following:

Detailed Discussion of the Embodiments.

Page 9, paragraph beginning on line 18, amend as follows:

Figure 1 shows in schematic cross-sectional view a liquid crystal cell 1 mounted on a thick film alumina hybrid substrate or chip carrier 2. The cell 1 is shown in exploded view in Figure 2. The use of a hybrid substrate for mounting electro-optic devices is discussed in more detail in our copending application ~~(ref: P20957WO)~~ U.S. Serial No. 09/868,219.

Page 11, amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 as follows:

The gaps 21 between the level shifters 44b, 45b and the adjacent edges of the array 4 are 1mm wide, and the gaps 22 between the level shifters 44b, 45b and the adjacent edges of the array 4 are 2mm wide. These gaps, or glue lanes, are sufficiently large to completely accommodate a glue seal 5 of approximate width of 300 microns while allowing for

tolerances in positioning of the seal. As shown in Figure 1, the size of the front electrode 6 sufficient to cover only the array and most of the glue lanes. In the embodiment the array is 11mm by 8 mm, and the front electrode is 12.4 mm by 9.4 mm. The provision of the glue lanes, and the assembly of the cell form the subject of our copending application ~~(ref: P20958WO)~~ U.S. Serial No. 09/868,239.